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ARKANSAS LIBRARIES

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY
Extension Division
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA



"Where a book raises your spirit and inspires you with noble and courageous feelings, seek no other rule to judge the event by; it is good, and made by a good workman."

—Jean de la Bruyere

Vol. 3, Series II

July 1, 1946

Number 1

Issued Quarterly

ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION
in cooperation with
ARKANSAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Arkansas Library Association Will Meet Nov. 7-8

Librarians and trustees should begin making plans now to attend the annual meeting of the Arkansas Library Association, which will be held in Little Rock November 7th and 8th. Since the date of the meeting coincides with the meeting of the Arkansas Education Association, hotel reservations should be made as early as possible.

Tentative plans for the program worked out by the executive board promise a stimulating worthwhile meeting. One of the guest speakers for the occasion will probably be Robert B. Downs, director of the University of Illinois Library and the Library School. More definite information regarding the complete program and plans for the meeting will be distributed as soon as possible.

We will look forward to seeing you in November.

CATHARINE THOMPSON CHEW, President
Arkansas Library Association.

ARKANSAS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION

Miss Pearl Williamson, Chairman.....	DeQueen
Mrs. I. C. Oxner.....	McGehee
Mrs. Merlin Moore.....	Little Rock
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Leta Sowder, Librarian and Executive Secretary

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Miss Rosemary Zell, Vice-President.....	Little Rock Public Library
Miss Mary Clifton, Secretary.....	Hot Springs High School Library
Miss Elsie Weisenberger, Treasurer.....	Hempstead County Library
Mrs. Earle Spencer, Member-at-Large.....	Pine Bluff Public Library

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Arkansas Libraries

Vol. 3, Series II

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25,332 Signatures Place County Library Tax Amendment On Ballot

Petitions to place the County Library Tax Amendment on the ballot for the election on November 5, 1946, were filed with 25,332 correct signatures in the office of the Secretary of State on July 8, by Mrs. Catharine T. Chew, president of the Arkansas Library Association. This action climaxed the intensive drive that had been made in fifty-four counties in the state by librarians, members of library boards, and many citizens interested in furthering library service.

The number of signatures secured in each county is as follows:

Ashley	405
Baxter	56
Clark	702
Clay	100
Cleburne	200
Columbia	624
Conway	541
Craighead	931
Cross	370
Dallas	518
Desha	447
Drew	296
Faulkner	549
Fulton	266
Garland	119
Grant	720
Hempstead	1,450
Hot Spring	489
Independence	1,276
Jackson	957
Jefferson	718
Lafayette	159
Lawrence	834
Lincoln	421
Logan	334

Lonoke	50
Madison	50
Mississippi	878
Monroe	100
North Arkansas Regional (Boone, Carroll, Marion, Newton)	811
Ouachita	105
Ozark Regional (Franklin, Johnson)	793
Phillips	417
Poinsett	246
Polk	373
Pope	50
Pulaski	1,302
Randolph	779
St. Francis	331
Scott	263
Sebastian	370
Sharp	799
Southwest Arkansas Regional (Howard, Little River, Pike, Sevier)	1,315
Stone	201
Union	1,055
Washington	433
White	564
Yell	756

REMEMBER THAT THE RACE IS NOT YET WON. We cannot afford to relax our efforts until after the election in November. Have YOU made plans in your county to remind your voters in October that they must vote for the library amendment? One county sponsoring group has already made arrangements with all the clubs in the county to spend part of one club meeting in explaining again the need for this amendment, the value

to that county, and how it will operate after it is adopted at the fall election.

Let us hear from you about the plans that your Amendment Commit-

tee has made to bring this before the voters again. We can pass your idea on to others and perhaps they can apply your plan effectively in their own area.

The A. L. A. Convention in Buffalo

An Informal Report by the Arkansas Librarians Who Attended

(Editor's Note: Arkansas was well represented at the first A.L.A. convention since the war by six librarians. Each has prepared an informal report of the section of the meeting which he attended.)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GENERAL SESSION

By Margaret Burkhead*

The sixty-fifth annual conference of the Arkansas Library Association held in Buffalo, June 16-22, 1946, was planned by the theme, "Gearing Libraries to a New Epoch—Quickening the Dissemination of Ideas and Broadening the Diffusion of Knowledge Through Local Cooperation and Interchange Between Nations." The one point stressed all during the sessions was the importance of making people of the community aware of their local library service and other general information, local, national, and international, available at their public library.

Mr. Ralph A. Ulveling, out-going president of the American Library Association and librarian of the Detroit Public Library, presided at the first general session. The address was given by John Grierson of Washington, D. C., Chairman of the Board of International Film Associates, authority on documentary films, who said: "The old library outlook is over and done with. No longer must we think the work is done if the information is made available. The work is not done until we spark the gap between the citizen and the world of

his citizenship." Ralph Ulveling said, "Since tolerance grows out of understanding, a heavy responsibility for its fulfillment must rest with libraries. More than any institution in American society, libraries are equipped to perform such a service. They have the material, they have the mandate to act, inherent in their establishment."

General Arthur J. McChrystal, Chief of the Informational Service for U. S. forces in Austria, talked about what library service means to the GI's and to the foreign populations in the regions occupied by Allied troops. He told of one instance where about 2,500 books had been placed on the shelves of a foreign library. The following day a greatly disturbed and obviously worried librarian went to him with the story that there had been many books stolen from the shelves. When asked how many had disappeared he was informed that more than 1,200 were missing. General McChrystal then told the librarian that if the population were that hungry for information, knowledge, and the escape provided by those books—twice the number of books should be provided for them. This particular incident happened in an Austrian town where working people were existing on one handful of beans, two powdered eggs, about one-fourth

*Mrs. Burkhead is executive secretary of the Little Rock Public Library. She conducts the weekly library radio program heard each Saturday at five p. m. on KLRA.

pint of vegetable oil and one-fourth box of dog food a week.

Mrs. Emily Taft Douglas, Congressional Representative from Illinois, talked on the subject of rural libraries—particularly about the pending bill in Congress which would provide funds for the establishment of demonstrations of adequate library service to people now without it or now inadequately served. (I understand that the consensus of opinion expressed at the Federal Relations A.L.A. Committee meeting was that this bill has little chance of passage because of more pressing national legislation overshadowing it.)

Mr. Luther H. Evans, Librarian of Congress, talked on the subject, "National Library Resources". He said that the United States several years ago published about 1/3 of the world's total book publications while today that figure is 2/3 of the world's total. During the war it was discovered that the Library of Congress lacked a great deal of material on the Near East, the Middle East, the Far East, and Russian political material published since the Russian Revolution. This material is now being acquired. To show the comparative volume of work in the world's largest libraries, Mr. Evans stated that the British Museum now employs 20 persons in their cataloging department, the Biblioteque Nationale had about the same number, while the Library of Congress employed about 110 catalogers—more than twice their pre-war figure.

Mr. Clapp, of the Acquisition Division of the Library of Congress, working with a committee from the Department of State, formed a mission of 18 people who went into Italy, France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, and Holland, with the purpose of purchasing publications printed during

the war years that would be of special value to libraries in this country. Only the imprints of war years were purchased. More than 30 freight car loads of books (more than 250,000 volumes) have been received in this country up to the present time. All duplicate copies not kept by the Library of Congress will be sold to libraries throughout the country at approximately 50 cents per volume—the unit cost price.

THE ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES AT BUFFALO

By Marvin Miller*

The Association of College and Research Libraries, although a division of the American Library Association, is for most practical purposes an association within itself. Its seven separate sections represent various types of special college, university and research library phases of work. A college or university librarian attending a meeting of the A.L.A. is primarily interested in the programs of the A.C.R.L. Those responsible for arranging the schedule of meetings at Buffalo did not keep this sufficiently in mind, since many of the sectional meetings were held on the same day and at the same hour. Obviously one person cannot be present in two or more places at the same time and must choose the meeting of most interest to him personally. This brief report will therefore confine itself to discussion of relationships of the A.C.R.L. and the A.L.A.

The one question being discussed most widely, both by A.C.R.L. members and other interested librarians, was that of relationship of the Asso-

*Mr. Miller, librarian of the University of Arkansas, is the Arkansas representative on the Council of the American Library Association.

ciation of College and Research Libraries and the American Library Association. This discussion arose directly from a report by a special committee of the A.C.R.L. which has been studying future organization of the Association and its relationships with the A.L.A. The committee, composed of R. E. Ellsworth, Mary Floyd, A. F. Kuhlman, C. S. Paine, S. Pargellis, and C. H. Brown submitted to the A.L.A. Executive Board and Council and to membership of the A.C.R.L. proposals which many regarded as ultimatums. In effect the report, which was approved in principal in the general business meeting of the A.C.R.L., proposed that unless the A.L.A. sees fit to grant the Association greater autonomy over its own projects and finances, the A.C.R.L. will withdraw (Secession, if you will) from the A.L.A. and set up its own independent association or affiliate itself with some other national organization, such as the Special Libraries Association. General sentiment of A.C.R.L. membership appeared to favor remaining as a division within the American Library Association, but under the following conditions as stated by the special committee:

1. The Association will collect, control, and appropriate dues from college and university libraries and librarians and from such reference libraries and librarians which may decide to affiliate.

2. The Association will share the income and principal from A.L.A. endowment funds on the basis of its proportional membership within A.L.A. to be computed annually or biennially.

3. The Association will appropriate funds for its own activities, and will allot funds to A.L.A. headquarters on an annual basis for overhead and for special activities

as may seem desirable. The amount to be appropriated for overhead will be determined by negotiation.

4. The A.C.R.L. will locate its headquarters at some university library to be determined later."

The proposal involves a suggestion to employ a paid executive who with a staff of clerical and stenographic assistance will devote full time to the affairs of the A.C.R.L. President Ulveling reported to the Council meeting of June 17 that the Executive Board of the A.L.A. had recently discussed the questions with representatives of the A.C.R.L. and in general favored reorganization of the A.L.A. to permit greater autonomy of divisions such as the A.C.R.L. over their own projects and finances. The Board furthermore proposed that the Council authorize a special committee to study questions raised by the A.C.R.L., this committee to report at the next mid-winter meeting of the American Library Association. After some discussion, involving principally the suggestion that the whole question be referred to the Fourth Activities Committee of the A.L.A., the Council voted to authorize the special committee. This action forestalled any immediate steps looking towards submission of the question to a plebiscite of all members of the A.C.R.L. and postpones further formal discussion until the mid-winter meeting. The indications at this time are that unless the A.L.A. accedes to demands of the Association and takes some positive action to satisfy long-standing grievances of college and university membership, the threat to secede may be carried out. Should such action be carried out by vote of membership of the A.C.R.L. fundamental changes in makeup of the American Library Association are to be expected. Miss Blanche McCrum, retiring president

of the A.C.R.L., gave an off-the-record report on grievances of the Association and its predecessor, College and Reference Section. The Association appears to be justified in its contention that the A.L.A. has not given to college and university library fields attention in due relation to representation membership and magnitude of problems.

NEWBERY AND CALDECOTT AWARDS DINNER

By Ida Mae Hagin*

One of the highlights at the American Library Association convention this year was the Newbery and Caldecott awards dinner. At this time the medals were presented and acceptance speeches made by the authors and artists of the two outstanding books for children written in the year of 1945.

Mrs. Harriet W. Leaf, chairman of the Children's Library Association of the American Library Association, presided at the banquet in the ballroom of the Hotel Statler in Buffalo, which was filled with librarians and book publishers. The tables were decorated with reproductions of Caldecott and Greenaway illustrations. On the placecards, which were distributed after the dinner, were reproduced drawings of a rooster and a strawberry—symbolic of the winning books.

The medals were awarded by Fred-eric G. Melcher—more or less the godfather of the Children's Library Association section—who acted as master of ceremonies for the occasion. Mr. Melcher brought with him some first editions which had been previously presented to him by this Section in recognition of his wonderful work in promoting children's books and reading. Having recently returned from England he also had with

him a personally autographed copy of A. A. Milne's *When We Were Very Young*. Upon mentioning his favorite poem in that volume, which he frequently reads to groups of school children, the applause was so great that he favored the audience with a wonderful rendition of *The King's Breakfast* with many gestures and much expression. It was an experience that the listeners will long remember.

The John Newbery award for "the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children" was given to author-artist Lois Lenski for *Strawberry Girl*. A regional story of the Florida Crackers among whom the author lived gives a picture of an unsuspected out-of-the-way place in our own country. Miss Lenski pointed out that one of her reasons for writing these regional stories was that she believed that children of the different sections of this large country should be aware of children in other sections.

She found getting acquainted with the children of the *Bayou Suzette* country, the Cracker region, and again in the North Carolina mountains much easier than perhaps a mere author because of her sketches which she drew along the way on country roads. Because she wanted to give the full flavor of a region she has kept, in a large part, to the speech of that particular region. Her poise and delivery of her talk proved Miss Lenski to be an excellent speaker as well as an author and illustrator of many fine books for children.

Mr. Melcher then presented the Caldecott medal "for the most distinguished American picture book for

*Miss Hagin is head of the children's department of the Little Rock Public Library.

children" to that pair who so charmed their audience—Maud and Miska Petersham for *The Rooster Crows, a Book of American Rhymes and Jingles*. Mrs. Petersham immediately declared that they had both decided that making a speech was much harder than making a book. But their speeches turned out to be very enjoyable indeed.

The presentation of the Newbery Medal this spring marks the twenty-fifth year for this annual award and the ninth year for the Caldecott prize. Although not announced at the banquet there was considerable interest in the runners-up for the two medal books. Those for the Newbery Medal this year include:

Justin Morgan Had a Horse, by Marguerite Henry.

The Moved Outers, by Florence Crannell Means.

Bhimsa the Dancing Bear, by Christine Weston.

New Found World, by K. B. Shippen.

Runners-up this year for the Caldecott medal were:

Little Lost Lamb, illustrated by Leonard Weisgard.

Sing Mother Goose, illustrated by Marjorie Torrey.

My Mother is the Most Beautiful Women In the World, illustrated by Becky Reyher.

You Can Write Chinese, illustrated by Kurt Wiese.

REPORT OF LIBRARY EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

By Leta Sowder*

We wish all of you could have been with us at the A.L.A. meeting in Buffalo, to hear the discussions of what the other states are doing in the extension of library service. We gathered many good ideas from these dis-

cussions and we want to consult you as to how we can best use them in the work that we are doing in Arkansas.

We found the most interest concentrated in these four activities:

(1) The Public Library Demonstration Bill which has been introduced in Congress and which has been acted upon favorably by the Senate Subcommittee on Education. At this writing it appears that the bill has little likelihood of passage at this session of Congress. Prolonged debate over such issues as OPA have completely overshadowed measures of this nature.

(2) Planning for the extension of library service in each state regardless of the passage of the bill.

(3) Discussion of the surveys that have been made by New York, Ohio and Michigan to discover the conditions of library services, library laws and library needs. We will have copies of these surveys to lend you as soon as we can get them.

(4) Discussion of public relations programs to interest the public in libraries, hinged around the three activities above.

During the two-day pre-conference institute, June 15-16, we heard explanations of the state surveys, and discussions of the plans for statewide library service as a result of those surveys, from Michigan, New York, and Ohio. These three states seem to have gone farther than any of the rest of us in surveying their library needs. Other states reported on their tentative plans for statewide surveys.

A tentative plan for library extension in Arkansas was discussed at our Arkansas Library Association

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meeting last November. If you have not talked these plans over with your board, and with leaders in your community, will you read over these plans again, and be prepared to give the state planning committee suggestions for your section of the state. Plans for future expansion in unserved areas are outlined in A TENTATIVE PLAN FOR LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT IN ARKANSAS, October, 1946. If your county is not mentioned in this plan, will you and other leaders in your community study your library needs and suggest plans for expansion and development.

MEETING OF REFERENCE SECTION OF A. L. A.

By Sally Large*

Dorothy Sinclair, Chairman of the Committee on new reference materials, made a report on projects which had been started during the year:

1. A bibliography by Van Hoesen and Walter.
2. A supplement to Riche's Analytical Bibliography of Universal Collected Bibliography.
3. Lippincott's Gazetteer.
4. Latin American Who's Who (Already compiled and published).
5. A record of Dissertations.
6. Directory of learned societies.
7. Index to obituaries is in progress but might be superseded by the new Wilson publication, the Biography Index.
8. Handbook of modern art.
9. Subject index to classical and mythological characters.
10. Cumulative index to monthly issues of the U. S. Catalog of government documents.

Robert Christ of the Grosvenor Library in Buffalo described in detail the record kept of reference questions in their library. They keep three records: telephone requests, readers in

person and unanswered questions. Telephone information is publicized and encouraged except for school assignments, which they refuse to answer by phone. From the records they have found a 295% increase in the last five years in questions. From the tabulations it was found that a disproportionate number of readers needed help with the catalog and location of books, hence the number of signs in the library was greatly increased and an enlarged catalog card was placed above the catalog to indicate what can be found on a card and calling attention to details. A careful record of all unanswered questions is kept with the name of the person wishing the information.

Ralph Shaw, Director of Libraries, Department of Agriculture, reported as follows on the condition of libraries in war areas:

The British Museum is not really in operation now—not repaired fully for use, since it lacks even a front door. The staff and budget are both much smaller than before the war. The book budget now is only \$16,000. It never has spent more than \$50,000 in contrast with the Library of Congress which spends \$500,000. During the war the British Museum was hit eight times by explosives and many times by incendiaries. They have lost well over a quarter of a million books. The whole staff did fire watching and bomb watching day and night.

The Ministry of Agriculture left its collection of rare books in London during the whole of the war and their tremendous collection of rare periodicals escaped damage by a miracle. The newer and most frequently used books were moved to a draper shop in the outskirts of London and the staff complained especially of its be-

*Miss Large is reference librarian of the Little Rock Public Library.

ing a third class drapery shop. The sign leading to the library read: "To the underskirt department."

The Royal Medical Society Library of London has an interesting innovation in its reading room. Each table has a light such as hospitals install for patients to summon nurses and readers may sit at the table and summon a librarian.

The Allied Book Center in London has collected 800,000 worthwhile books and 200,000 magazines which can be turned over to libraries which need them.

In Germany Mr. Lydenburg is doing a good job of collecting books published during the war for American Libraries.

In France French-English dictionaries have been stolen from the libraries so frequently that patrons are now required to turn in ration books to the librarian while the dictionary is in use. The U. S. Information Library in Paris is used more than any other American Library for its periodicals, of which it has a very good and up-to-date collection.

In Italy the outstanding library is the one in the Vatican which served as a place of refuge for most important collections of books in Italy. The Monte Cassino books were sent to the Vatican before the destruction of the building and are thus intact.

SCRAPS FROM A. L. A. OF INTEREST OF COUNTY AND REGIONAL LIBRARIANS

By Leila Heasley*

Bookmobile plans, the new county library manual now in process of being written to be published by A.L.A., the recruiting of young people into the library profession were among the chief topics being discussed by county and regional librarians both

formally and informally during the week of meetings.

Mrs. Gretchen Knief Schenck, who has been designated to write the new manual on county library practice, spoke on the outlined plans. "It will not be a manual to end all manuals," she said. The first part will be devoted to an explanation of what county library work is and will contain much of the best thought in the field of library extension. The second part will be devoted to library routines, simplifying them insofar as possible to give the librarian time for public relations work. Mrs. Schenck has visited fifty libraries in eleven states to study library practice.

The librarian of the New Jersey County library in which Adele De Leeuw gathered material for her book *With a High Heart* was at the meeting. She reported that all of the things in the book, even the drowning episode, really happened to some librarian at some time.

To interest high school girls in library work, one county librarian has invited those interested to accompany her on the bookmobile and to work with her at headquarters for several days. This proved more effective than any number of talks on the profession and gave them experience in the actual duties involved in extension work.

A statement from the talk on rural libraries by Mrs. Helen Taft Douglas at the second general session was of special interest to me. "There is something vastly romantic about the idea of carrying books on wheels to rural communities," she said. "Libraries have not even begun to use this public interest in bookmobiles to

*Miss Heasley, field representative of the State Library Commission, is a member of the executive board of the County and Regional Section of A.L.A.

increase interest in and support of such a service."

County librarians interested in expanding to cover audio-visual materials will be interested in a new classroom recording made of vinylite, an unbreakable material. These records, which were on display, the manufacturers claim will withstand the hard wear demanded from circulating and school collections. Based on library classics and historical events, these recordings are intended for use in teaching literature and history.

Vying with a trip to Niagara Falls, the opportunity to meet and talk with librarians from distant states, and attendance at the scheduled meetings, was an interest in the reaction of the cab drivers to a "liberry" convention.

A consuming pride in Buffalo and

a puzzlement as to what librarians find to do were evident on the part of many of the cab drivers; while librarians were interested in knowing how far the much-discussed public relations program in cities the size of Buffalo had penetrated to make the taxi drivers library conscious.

"What do you liberrians do, keep books?" one of them asked. Since he had just finished a three-block description of the merits of Buffalo I couldn't resist asking if they had no libraries.

"Oh, yes," he said, "got lots of 'em—Got one covers a whole city block—Show it to you as we go by."

"There it is," he pointed out a few blocks away, "covers a whole city block—Got caretakers and everything."

Books Needed For War Devastated Libraries

THE AMERICAN BOOK CENTER FOR WAR DEVASTATED COUNTRIES located at the Library of Congress and sponsored by the American Library Association and other library associations of the United States and Canada, is asking Arkansas for assistance in securing books and technical journals.

WHAT IS NEEDED: For the present, the Center limits itself to scholarly materials that will be useful in research and in the physical, social, industrial and economic rehabilitation of war ravaged areas. Books and journals which are important contributions to their subjects, are needed. The Center is eager to secure materials in the fields of history, social science, music, fine arts, literature—as well as in the sciences and technical fields. It is probable that most of the materials sent abroad

will go to national, university and college libraries.

BOOKS: Emphasis is placed upon publications which were issued during the last ten years and upon works which are standard in their fields. Out-dated monographs will not be useful. Light fiction is not desired. Standard fiction and significant novels which have appeared during the last ten years will be very useful. No textbooks are needed except those in a few scientific fields where recent texts are the best and only monographic treatments of their subjects. In the large class of popular non-fiction, only works of enduring significance will be appropriate books such as Gunther's *Inside Europe*, Haliburton's *Royal Road of Romance*, and Carnegie's *How to Win Friends* . . . are not needed. On the other hand, titles such as Ambassador

Dodd's *Memoirs* and Willkie's *One World* will be valued.

PERIODICALS: The same limitations applicable to books will apply to periodicals. Scientific, technical and other learned journals in all subject areas are most needed. There is an especial interest for journals issued during the war years. Popular magazine such as *Time*, *Life*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *National Geographic*, etc., are not needed.

DOCUMENTS: Federal, state, and local documents provide important information in many subjects.

Documents dealing with municipal planning, public health, public welfare, medicine, and other vital subjects will be very useful abroad.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: Contribute books and journals of the classes described above and get others to do so. All books should be mailed to the following address:

GEORGIA CLARK,
State Chairman for Arkansas
University of Ark. Library,
Fayetteville, Ark.

Wanted

Mrs. F. L. Proctor, librarian of the Forrest City Public Library, wishes to purchase the following Goodspeed histories of Arkansas:

1. Biographical and historical memoirs of Pulaski, Jefferson, Lonoke, Faulkner, Grant, Saline,

Perry, Garland, and Hot Spring Counties, Ark.

2. History of Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison, Crawford, Franklin and Sebastian Counties, Ark.
3. History of southern Arkansas.

Circulation Increase Reported by State Library Commission

Summarizing its circulation activities from July, 1945, through June, 1946, the Commission reports that 29,830 books were mailed in 2,407 shipments during the year. 3,460 more books were mailed this year than last. Books were mailed to all of the seventy-five counties, the largest number, 17,104, going to schools in the counties without county libraries.

Two hundred ninety-eight books were borrowed on inter-library loan from twenty-one libraries. Of this number the Little Rock Public Library supplied one hundred ninety-nine and the University of Arkansas supplied fifty-two. Libraries and

individuals securing books on inter-library loan from the Commission are particularly indebted to Miss Vera Snook and her staff, and Mr. Marvin Miller and his staff for their generosity in extending this courtesy to the state at large.

The Commission hopes to see an even greater expansion in circulation during the year ahead with the inauguration of a new service to negroes. Intended primarily for negro schools in counties without county libraries, the initial collection of books is now ready for use. The collection includes a selection of books by and about the negro which will be loaned to any public or school library in the state.

El Dorado Public Library Inaugurates Radio Program

By Robert Witt,
Treasurer of the El Dorado Public Library and Chairman of the Radio Committee

Through the generosity of civic-minded radio station KELD, the El Dorado Public Library has been given a 15 minute spot each Tuesday at 9:15 p. m., in which to present a program, entitled "Your Library on the Air."

A radio committee was appointed by the library board to draw up a format of weekly programs, extending over a period of three months. As the purpose behind the program is the securing of publicity for the City Library, most of the speakers selected were men, because it was thought that they would attract more interest and a wider radio audience.

The speakers were allowed to choose their own subjects, which might be a particular hobby or might be connected with a speaker's profession. The only requirement was that the subject be of a cultural nature, that it be of interest, and that it be in some way connected with the library's services.

Among the subjects already discussed are "A Word About Words," "Your Latin American Neighbors," "Trends in Current American Fiction," and "Science and the Bible." Speakers are introduced by Mrs. C. C. Wilking, librarian, who, at the end of each program gives some information as to books available in the library on the speaker's subject, the research facilities offered by the li-

brary, how membership in the library is secured, or the place of the library in the life of the town.

The programs have aroused a great deal of interest, and have noticeably

increased active reading through the library. They have, indeed, been so successful that it is planned to carry them through another three months' period.

News Notes

PINE BLUFF AND JEFFERSON COUNTY LIBRARY—"My Country" is the theme for the vacation reading club directed by Mrs. John Rutherford, county librarian. An attractive reading list stressing books on the club theme has been distributed to children participating in the club.

HEMPSTEAD COUNTY, Hope — Miss Elsie Weisenberger, Librarian, who was seriously injured in a car accident near Marshall, Texas, is in the Schumpert Hospital, Room 203, Shreveport, La. She is recovering slowly and will be at the hospital for about six weeks longer. She would like to hear from you.

WARREN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY—"Story Telling Time" is enjoyed every Friday afternoon and the school library is open under the direction of Miss Mary Sue Tulos, major in library science at Texas State College for Women.

SEBASTIAN COUNTY LIBRARY, Greenwood—Mrs. Hattie Faye Luzak, Assistant Librarian of Sebastian County, was married to Joe Magee of Baton Rouge, La., on June 2.

FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY—Miss Jobelle Holcombe, librarian, has resigned to make her home in Memphis with her nephew.

SOUTHWEST ARKANSAS REGIONAL LIBRARY, Nashville — Blanche Miller and Jacquie Rainwater report the opening of another branch library at Delight with Miss Maxine Sutton in charge. This is the

tenth branch for the Southwest Arkansas Regional Library. The Regional book truck was delivered April 26 and the librarians have been busy setting up deposits and branches since that date.

WASHINGTON COUNTY LIBRARY, Fayetteville — Mrs. Helen Wiggins has accepted the position of county librarian and will arrive in Fayetteville August 15. Mrs. Wiggins was librarian of the Washington County Library in 1944. She also formerly served on the staff of the University of Arkansas Library. She succeeds Mrs. Don L. Hoyt who has resigned because of illness.

FORREST CITY—The Forrest City Public Library has received \$300 to be used as a memorial to the late Judge and Mrs. S. H. Mann who were instrumental in founding the library. A part of the gift will be used to purchase a new catalog for the library. Mrs. F. L. Proctor, librarian plans to purchase books with the remainder of the gift.

CLARK COUNTY LIBRARY, Arkadelphia—Mrs. Joe Jackson, for six years librarian of the Washington Branch of the Hempstead County Library, has accepted the position as librarian of the Clark County Library at Arkadelphia.

NORTH LITTLE ROCK—The formal opening of the new city library was held Sunday, June 16. Miss Myrtle Deason, librarian, and members of the library board: Garland Beavers, Mrs. Clare Spear, Miss

Frances Bowers, Glenn G. Zimmerman, and Rev. Harold Kiemel, served as a reception committee. The library is well located near the business section of the city and the task of remodelling the building for library purposes has been successfully completed to provide the city with tastefully decorated attractive quarters for the collection of ten thousand new books which the library will

house. The main floor contains an adult reading room, reception room, children's room, stack room and office. Three lecture rooms have been provided on the second floor.

GREENWOOD—News has been received of the marriage of Miss Mary Hightower of Pine Bluff to Rene Landuyt of Detroit, Mich. Mrs. Landuyt was formerly librarian in Sebastian County and in Independence County.

The \$100 Question

The Little Rock Public Library is accustomed to being asked many varieties of questions, but on Tuesday, June 25, 1946, the value of the information requested, hit an all-time high. Question: "Have you found the \$100 bill that I had folded inside my wallet. It probably fell out when I used my library card last Wednesday

afternoon." This is the question as it was stated by W. J. Coburn. After sufficient identification and recounting of circumstances leading up to the loss of the bill, came the answer: "Yes, we have the bill here for you." That question and answer were worth exactly \$100. If you don't believe it, just ask Mr. Coburn.

Free

The Arkansas State Library Commission has a great many duplicates of the following which will be placed on permanent loan to any library desiring them:

Bradley **COOKING FOR PROFIT**; catering and food service management. 1933 Am. School of Home Ec. 2.50.

Bryan, **THE SCHOOL CAFETE-**

RIA, 1938 Crofts 3.50

Harmer, **THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF NURSING**, 1939 Macmillan 3.00

West, **FOOD SERVICE IN INSTITUTIONS**, Wiley 1938 4.50

If you wish any of these send a postcard to the Commission indicating the titles and the number of copies if more than one is desired.

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